

*Kalenda Maya*

*by Raymbaut de Vaquieras*

1st verse trans. by Owen Alun

On the first of May  
In beech leaves play  
the birds who sing  
to flowers all day

None of these please me  
my noble lady  
Until you send me  
a remedie.

For lady please  
send me I pray  
a message to  
meet you today.

I sing in spring  
this song that I bring  
Until day I shall stay  
and then unseen I'll slip away.

2nd verse trans. by Amelie d'Anjou

My beautiful friend  
May God not intend  
that our special love  
should ever end.

If you would leave me  
I blame jealousy  
Those gossips would laugh  
at my pain plain to see.

For without you  
My joy would surely end.  
Live on without you  
My heart would truly rend.

That day I'll stay  
No more, but slip away  
For I would die  
If to you I must say goodbye.

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b60004306/f137.item> for image of song in ms. R

for a well-argued essay on the rhythm of this song, see: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/274634664\\_A\\_Rhythmic\\_realization\\_for\\_Raimbaut\\_de\\_Vaqueiras\\_%27\\_Kalenda\\_Maya](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/274634664_A_Rhythmic_realization_for_Raimbaut_de_Vaqueiras_%27_Kalenda_Maya)